

# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for  
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

No. 1384

Washington, D. C.

April 26, 1952

## Standards for Suspension Of Price Controls

Standards for suspension of price control were announced by the Director of Price Stabilization, Ellis Arnall, in a statement to the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency on April 22.

The N.C.A. War Mobilization Committee on January 17 formally recommended suspension of price controls on canned foods, and this recommendation was supported by the resolution voted by the N.C.A. membership at the annual meeting January 19 and reported in the INFORMATION LETTER of January 30, page 85. This resolution was presented to OPS March 4. Other industries also have asked that OPS suspend price controls on their products.

It is known that OPS has been studying the problem of suspension for some time. In his statement to the Senate Banking Committee, which was later released publicly, Mr. Arnall pointed out that the standards for suspension of controls are preliminary and, by way of explanation as to when they shall be used, he stated:

"There must be objective standards for determining when price control in a given area should be suspended. The agency must be able to justify its action or inaction in each case in terms of such standards. The responsibility

(Please turn to page 162)

### N.C.A. Given Assurance On Negotiated Buying

Military requirements for seasonal canned foods will be purchased by negotiation. This was made known to N.C.A. this week at a meeting with representatives of the Department of the Army.

The meeting had been arranged by the N.C.A. because of reports that the advertised bid method of procurement was to be used this year in the purchase of items not subject to set-aside, such as spinach, tomato juice, and beets.

Representing the Department of the Army at the meeting were officials from the Office of the Under Secretary, the Judge Advocate General's office, and the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, Logistics. In addition, representatives of the Office of the Quartermaster General were present.

Also discussed at the meeting were the application of the Walsh-Healey Act to production contracts, the further extension of the Walsh-Healey exemption, releases from set-asides, and the desirability that the industry receive an affirmative statement that tentative requirements for canned foods announced for this year are estimated minimum requirements.

### Schedule of Meetings of Board, Council, Committees

Following is a schedule of meetings of the Board of Directors, Administrative Council, and N.C.A. Committees:

#### Sunday, May 18

- 10 a.m.—Labeling Committee, Library, N.C.A.
- 2 p.m.—Convention Committee, Main Conference Room, N.C.A.
- 2 p.m.—Retirement Plan Trustees, Secretary Campbell's Office
- 7 p.m.—Dinner, Public Relations Committee, Town Room, Hotel Statler

#### Monday, May 19

- 9:30 a.m.—Raw Products Committee, Library, N.C.A.
- 10 a.m.—Administrative Council, Main Conference Room, N.C.A.
- 12:30 p.m.—Board of Directors Luncheon (Board, Council, Committees, State Secretaries), Congressional Room, Hotel Statler
- 2 p.m.—Board of Directors (First Session), Congressional Room, Hotel Statler

#### Tuesday, May 20

- 10 a.m.—Board of Directors (Second Session), Federal Room, Hotel Statler
- 12:30 p.m.—Board of Directors Luncheon, Congressional Room, Hotel Statler
- 7 p.m.—President's Dinner for State Secretaries, Pan American Room, Hotel Statler

#### Wednesday, May 21

- 9:30 a.m.—Washington Laboratory Advisory Committee, Main Conference Room, N.C.A.

### Ned Brooks, Radio News Commentator, To Speak at Meeting of Board on Developments in Washington

President Heinz announces that Ned Brooks, radio news commentator on "Three-Star Extra," heard Mondays through Fridays under Sun Oil Company sponsorship, will be guest speaker at the luncheon in the Congressional Room, Hotel Statler, Monday, May 19, with which the Board of Directors will open its spring meeting.

Mr. Brooks joined radio ranks in 1947 after 15 years as Washington correspondent for the Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance. He has been seen frequently also on the television program "Meet the Press" on Sunday afternoons. Title of his address to the Board is "Behind the Microphone in Washington."

Among his many radio assignments Mr. Brooks covered the elections of 1948 and 1950 with on-the-scene comments. He is considered particularly adept at interviews and his talk will be illustrated with tape recordings of

(Please turn to page 164)

## STATISTICS

### Canned Fruit and Vegetable Stocks and Shipments

Reports on canners' stocks and shipments of canned apples, apple sauce, apricots, RSP cherries, sweet cherries, peaches, pears, green and wax beans, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, and tomato juice have been compiled by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics, and detailed reports have been mailed to all canners packing those products.

#### Canned Apple Stocks and Shipments

	1951-52 (basis 6/10)
Carryover, Aug. 1	1,933,263
Pack, Aug. through March	3,388,249
Supply	5,341,512
Stocks, April 1	2,364,722
Shipments during March	272,591
Shipments, Aug. 1 to April 1	2,976,790

#### Apple Sauce Stocks and Shipments

	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, Aug. 1	3,497,089
Pack, Aug. through March	9,380,851
Supply	12,877,940
Stocks, April 1	5,251,018
Shipments during March	743,933
Shipments, Aug. 1 to April 1	7,026,922

#### Canned Apricot Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (cases—basis 24/25¢)
Carryover, June 1	540,000	115,000
Pack	3,661,000	4,614,000
Total supply	4,201,000	4,729,000
Stocks, April 1	340,000	935,000
Shipments, Jan. 1 to April 1	833,000	751,000
Shipments, June 1 to April 1	3,861,000	3,774,000

#### RSP Cherry Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1	30,332	29,950
Pack	5,022,951	4,672,041
Total supply	5,053,283	4,701,991
Stocks, April 1	429,933	626,261
Shipments during March	238,068	233,024
Shipments, July 1 to April 1	4,623,350	4,075,730

#### Sweet Cherry Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (cases—basis 24/25¢)
Carryover, June 1	316,000	55,000
Pack	741,000	900,000
Total supply	1,057,000	955,000
Stocks, April 1	145,000	191,000
Shipments, Jan. 1 to April 1	295,000	145,000
Shipments, June 1 to April 1	912,000	764,000

#### Canned Peach Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (cases—basis 24/25¢)
Carryover, June 1	2,542,000	625,000
Pack	16,605,000	22,803,000
Total supply	19,147,000	23,428,000
Stocks, April 1	1,681,000	6,251,000
Shipments, Jan. 1 to April 1	3,872,000	3,981,000
Shipments, June 1 to April 1	17,466,000	17,177,000

#### Canned Pear Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (cases—basis 24/25¢)
Carryover, June 1	597,000	605,000
Pack	6,370,000	6,647,000
Total supply	6,967,000	7,252,000
Stocks, April 1	1,344,000	2,588,000
Shipments, Jan. 1 to April 1	2,109,000	1,834,000
Shipments, June 1 to April 1	5,623,000	4,664,000

#### Green and Wax Bean Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1	1,619,626	1,395,850
Pack	20,213,355	19,866,974
Total supply	21,832,981	21,262,824
Stocks, April 1	4,395,390	5,880,822
Shipments during March	1,720,521	1,634,596
Shipments, July 1 to April 1	17,437,585	15,382,002

#### Pumpkin and Squash Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1	123,449	
Pack	1,777,803	3,480,634
Total supply	1,901,252	3,480,634
Stocks, April 1	32,540	115,510
Shipments, Dec. 1 to April 1	234,484	281,692
Shipments, July 1 to April 1	1,868,712	3,365,124

#### Canned Tomato Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1	1,868,427	55,355
Pack	18,724,350	27,672,399
Total supply	20,592,777	27,727,754
Stocks, April 1	585,736	4,384,145
Shipments, Jan. 1 to April 1	4,565,065	3,974,796
Shipments, July 1 to April 1	20,007,041	23,343,000

#### Tomato Juice Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1	3,004,135	917,071
Pack	22,740,658	31,625,534
Total supply	25,744,793	32,542,605
Stocks, April 1	3,908,171	10,787,942
Shipments, Jan. 1 to April 1	7,259,762	6,252,508
Shipments, July 1 to April 1	21,836,022	21,754,063

### 1951-52 Apple Products Packs

The 1951-52 packs of apples, apple sauce, and apple juice have been compiled by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics. Following are the 1951-52 packs, by states, with comparisons:

#### 1951-52 Pack of Apples

	1950-51	1951-52 (cases—basis 6/10)
State		
New York	1,154,396	996,145
Md., Pa., and Va.	3,119,816	2,086,286
Washington and Oregon	608,182	251,479
California	(a)	34,288
Other states	142,041	70,051
U. S. Total	5,024,435	3,388,249

(a) Included in other states.

#### 1951-52 Pack of Apple Sauce

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
State		
New York	3,800,628	3,425,468
Md., Pa., and Va.	7,136,895	4,580,693
Washington and Oregon	(a)	111,918
California	(a)	923,623
Other states	1,705,187	339,149
U. S. Total	12,642,705	9,380,851

(a) Included in other states.

#### 1951-52 Pack of Apple Juice

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
State		
New York	(a)	(a)
Md., Pa., and Va.	995,620	632,827
Michigan	488,797	412,278
Other states	1,985,529	2,129,812
U. S. Total	3,469,946	3,174,417

(a) Included in other states.

### Beets for Canning

A decrease of about 7 percent from 1951 plantings of beets for canning is indicated for 1952, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This decrease from last year's plantings is indicated by reports received from beet canners in late March and early April on acreage they intend to contract and plant in 1952.

If acreage prospects materialize, the 1952 plantings of beets for canning will total 17,820 acres. This compares with 19,200 acres planted in 1951 and is only slightly more than the 1941-50 average of 17,700 acres.

The following table shows the acreage in prospect at the present time:

	1951 Indicated	1951 Planted (Revised)	1952 Indicated
State	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
New York	3,800	3,800	4,700
Michigan	1,000	1,100	1,000
Wisconsin	8,000	8,300	7,900
Oregon	2,300	2,000	1,100
Other states <sup>1</sup>	3,150	4,000	3,120
U. S. Total	19,700	19,200	17,820

<sup>1</sup> Calif., Colo., Ill., Ind., Iowa, La., Me., Md., Minn., Miss., N. J., Ohio, Pa., Tenn., Tex., Utah, and Wash.

### Cucumbers for Pickles

An increase of about 9 percent over 1951 in the planted acreage of cucumbers for pickles is indicated for 1951, according to BAE.

If prospects reported in late March and early April materialize, the 1952 plantings of pickling cucumbers will total 165,150 acres. This compares with 152,180 acres planted in 1951 and average planting of 127,020 acres.

Abandonment of planted acreage has averaged around 10 percent annually during the past 10 years. Assuming average abandonment in 1952, there would be about 148,600 acres for harvest. This compares with 140,600 acres harvested in 1951 and the 10-year average of 113,650 acres.

### Tomatoes for Processing

A reduction of 11 percent in the acreage of tomatoes for processing in 1952 is indicated on the basis of reports on intentions to plant, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

If early-season acreage prospects materialize, the 1952 plantings of tomatoes for processing will total 415,100 acres. This compares with the revised estimate of 466,220 acres planted in 1951 and the 1941-50 average planting of 514,200 acres.

If the average 4 percent of planted acreage is abandoned, about 398,500 acres would be harvested in 1952. This compares with 458,130 acres harvested in 1951 and a 10-year average of 493,300 acres.

With a yield in line with the 10-year average of 6.10 tons per acre, 1952 production would amount to 2,430,850 tons, compared with the revised estimate of 1951 production of 4,503,890 tons and average production of 2,929,200 tons.

The following table shows the acreage in prospect at the present time:

State	1951 Indicated	1951 Planted (Revised)	1952 Indicated
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
New York	22,500	20,400	17,100
New Jersey	35,000	35,300	36,000
Pennsylvania	25,200	24,500	24,500
Ohio	25,000	19,200	23,000
Indiana	76,000	71,000	61,000
Illinois	14,200	12,600	10,500
Michigan	9,700	9,100	8,900
Wisconsin	1,800	1,500	900
Iowa	1,600	1,900	1,500
Missouri	7,700	6,800	5,500
Delaware	6,000	4,150	3,900
Maryland	35,400	31,400	29,200
Virginia	17,700	18,600	13,000
South Carolina	4,500	4,500	3,000
Florida	4,500	7,200	6,500
Kentucky	2,000	1,800	1,500
Tennessee	2,500	2,400	2,500
Arkansas	12,500	11,000	10,800
Oklahoma	1,600	500	400
Texas	18,500	18,500	20,000
Colorado	4,300	3,800	3,600
Utah	8,600	7,700	7,400
California	150,000	148,300	120,000
Other states	3,400	4,070	3,900
U. S. Total	490,200	466,220	415,100

<sup>1</sup> Ala., Ariz., Conn., Ga., Idaho, Kans., La., Minn., Miss., Nebr., N. M., N. C., Ore., Wash., and W. Va.

## DEFENSE

### WSB Again Allows Cannery To Raise Wages during Packing

The Wage Stabilization Board again has permitted food processors to maintain customary differentials between agricultural wages and the wages paid for in-plant work in the same area.

The WSB unanimously extended Resolution 45, which last year had permitted cannery and other food processors to maintain 1950 differentials in the same area. The authorization to maintain 1950 differentials is extended indefinitely by this most recent action.

Resolution 45, Amendment 1, is quoted:

"Resolution 45, by its terms, is applicable to the 1951 canning and packing season only. The purpose of this amendment is to (1) continue the policy of permitting seasonal establishments as identified below to pay rates which maintain 1950 differentials between the wages paid by such establishments and agricultural wages in the same area, (2) to make clear that such establishments, in the alternative, may adjust the compensation of their employees in accordance with the general wage regulations and resolutions of the Board.

"Resolution 45 is hereby amended by substituting in lieu thereof the following:

"1. The wages of employees of seasonal establishments engaged in the canning, packing, freezing or dehydrating of perishable fruits and vegetables may be adjusted either in accordance with the regulations and resolutions of the Board, or

"2. Such seasonal establishments may, without prior approval of the Board, pay rates which maintain 1950 differentials between wages paid by such establishments and agricultural wages in the same area. Employers shall report within 30 days to the nearest office of the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor adjustments made pursuant to this paragraph. The appropriate Regional Boards shall review such reports promptly, and where it appears that wage adjustments have been made which do not conform to the provisions of this paragraph, the Regional Boards shall report the facts to the National Board.

"3. This Resolution shall be effective until modified or repealed."

Such an authorization was requested by the N.C.A. last month (see INFORMATION LETTER of March 29, page 135).

### OPS Allows 4 Percent Increase In Prices of Glass Containers

Manufacturers of glass containers have been authorized by OPS to raise their ceiling prices under the GCPR by a flat 4 percent, effective April 28.

The order requires, however, that the higher prices must be consistent in all respects with prices which prevailed under the GCPR; "that is, they must carry all customary delivery terms, cash, trade and volume discounts, allowances, premiums and extras, deductions, guarantees and other terms and conditions of sale."

The price increase was authorized by SR 99 to the GCPR. This represents the first instance in which OPS has granted any industry an across-the-board price adjustment representing the amount of increase to which the industry is entitled under the Capehart amendment. The Statement of Considerations notes that "some increase in ceiling prices is required to satisfy the industry earnings standard."

### Ceiling Prices on Fresh Fruits

Members of the Fresh Apricot, Sweet Cherry, Plum and Fresh Prune Industry Advisory Committee met with OPS officials April 16 to discuss preparation of a standby tailored ceiling price regulation for that industry.

It was the consensus of OPS officials and the industry members that a tailored regulation should be prepared for issuance in the event it would be needed.

The OPS announcement said:

"It is not the intention of the agency to apply regulations to minor fresh fruit and vegetable commodities which are on the market for a short time, unless some unforeseen condition arises necessitating such action. The agency views its function as one which will develop a regulation for these commodities which will stabilize prices, and at the same time can be utilized by the trade with a minimum of discomfort. It will be much better to have a regulation for certain fresh fruits and vegetables prepared when need for one is shown, than to have a last-minute action taken from which difficulties might have to be removed."

### Packaging Closures, M-26

All restrictions on the sale, delivery and use of aluminum closures and closure liners were removed April 24 by an amendment to NPA's packaging closure order, M-26. The order now applies only to tin plate closures, use of 1.50 pound closures for canned foods still being unlimited.



### Standards for Suspension

(Concluded from page 159)

involved is heavy and decisions cannot be made simply on 'hunch' or 'feel.'

"The preliminary suspension standards outlined below were designed to permit immediate examination of proposed suspension at the primary producer level where dollars-and-cents ceilings are in effect. These are the areas where soft markets can be most readily defined and techniques for suspension most readily developed. These preliminary standards will also provide the basis for such modification and refinement as may be necessary to deal with other levels and areas. Under these standards it may be more appropriate to ease reporting or record-keeping requirements for some trades and industries rather than to suspend regulations."

Following are the preliminary standards as announced by OPS:

"1. Suspension action or other relaxation will not be approved unless the following standards are met.

"a. Prices in an area are materially below ceilings.

"(1) 'Prices' include prices in contracts for future delivery.

"(2) 'Area' has reference to a range of related items. This range will be determined by the structure of the market and of OPS regulations. It will take account of the practicability (both from the standpoint of sellers and of OPS) of separation between suspended and non-suspended items.

"(3) Each level of production, processing or distribution will be considered separately.

"(4) Not only must the average level of prices be 'materially below' ceilings, but also the prices for the bulk of individual transactions must be below ceilings.

"(5) 'Materially below ceilings' will take into account such factors as the degree of volatility of prices, seasonal movements, and the extent to which ceilings are realistic in terms of stabilization policy (as would normally be the case with a 'tailored' regulation, but not necessarily with general regulations such as GCPR or CPR 22).

"b. There is no prospect that reimposition of controls will be necessary in the foreseeable future.

"(1) This finding will depend upon full information concerning current supply and demand, productive capacity, inventories, crop conditions (where applicable), volatility of prices and other relevant factors.

"2. Before suspending ceilings or otherwise relaxing controls in any area, the following safeguards must be provided:

"a. An adequate price-watching system must be established to follow the movement of current and future

prices and their relationship to ceilings.

"(1) For highly volatile prices, this must be on a daily basis; for others, on a less frequent but periodic basis. The kind of price-watching system will depend largely upon the nature of the area and of the applicable OPS regulation.

"(2) Under certain circumstances, a report may be required of any offers, contracts or deliveries above pre-suspension ceilings or within a specified range below.

"b. There must be a determination of the conditions under which controls will be reimposed and of the appropriate reconrol mechanism.

"(1) These conditions may involve average prices or particular prices, and due allowance for seasonal variations.

"(2) In any event, these conditions must require the reimposition of controls before a significant volume of transactions has reached the suspended ceilings.

"(3) These conditions must be published at the time of suspension.

"c. There must be a provision that all records required previously will be preserved.

"3. If suspension is terminated, the level of ceiling prices will not be higher than that prior to suspension, except as required by law, and contracts at prices higher than pre-suspension ceilings will be entered into at the risk of the contracting parties.

"4. The Director may at any time reimpose controls if he determines that such action is necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended."

#### Decontrolled Commodities

In announcing the standards for suspension, Mr. Arnall also listed commodities on which price controls at the primary producer level will be suspended, effective April 28. They are:

Cattlehides, kips, calfskins, tallow, lard, animal waste materials, vegetable oil soapstock, crude cottonseed oil, crude soybean oil, crude corn oil, burlap, wool, wool top, wool noils, wool waste, and alpaca.

#### Fruit and Vegetable Canners Industry Advisory Committee Meeting

Application of the OPS industry earnings standard to the canning industry in adjusting ceiling prices for the 1952 pack of fruits and vegetables was outlined April 21 by officials of the agency at a meeting with the industry's advisory committee.

The basic OPS industry earnings standard provides that general price

relief will be granted to any industry that can show its current earnings are less than 85 percent of its earnings on adjusted net worth in the best three of the four years 1946-49 (see INFORMATION LETTER of April 28, 1951, page 183).

Following is the major portion of a press release on the industry advisory committee meeting issued by OPS:

"In brief, the standard would be applied to the canning industry by continuing 1951 ceiling prices for the 1952 packs after making adjustments required by the earnings standard.

"It is tentatively proposed to leave the 1951 ceilings unchanged for product lines where it can be shown that they would enable the industry to earn a return from these products on the 1952 pack which meets or exceeds the requirement of the standard.

"Ceilings on product lines where it can be shown that the 1951 ceilings would not permit the industry to earn a return meeting the standard's requirements would be increased by specific amounts to bring the industry up to the standard on these products.

"Determination as to whether the ceilings are sufficient to enable the industry to meet the earnings standard will be made by OPS.

"An industry earnings survey is contemplated for this purpose. However, if there is not time enough to complete the survey before the 1952 packing season hits its stride, OPS said pricing factors would be issued at specific times on the basis of information available to the agency at the time.

"When it has been determined that ceiling prices for a product line are sufficient to enable the industry to meet or exceed the earnings standard, OPS said no further price adjustments would be permitted. The agency stressed that this was an adjustment standard and not a rollback standard.

"Should raw material costs or other costs increase, OPS would determine whether the ceilings were at levels which still enabled the industry to meet the earnings standard."

## STANDARDS

### Pineapple Standards Hearing

The hearing to collect additional data on fill of container for canned pineapple was held this week by the Federal Security Administrator. The hearing began April 22 and was concluded the following day.

## CONGRESS

### Brannan Plan for Production Payments Recalled at Hearing On Bills to Provide Price Support for Perishable Crops

The need for effective price support for perishables was cited by Secretary of Agriculture Brannan in testimony before a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Agriculture April 18.

"The present situation is one in which no matter how much we will to support perishables at adequate levels, we do not have an effective and practical way to do the job," he said.

The Secretary recalled the "production payment" program proposed in 1949, which became known as the Brannan Plan, but said he would make no further argument at this time for such payments.

The Secretary was testifying on bills to provide price support for both basic and nonbasic commodities. One of the bills under consideration was S. 450, which would authorize price support at 90 percent of parity for any nonbasic commodity whenever the Secretary "finds it necessary to encourage the expansion of production" of that commodity during the present national emergency and for two years thereafter.

Secretary Brannan said that S. 450 is quite similar in many respects to the so-called Steagall amendment of 1941. He stated:

"The Department concurs in the over-all objective of the bill which is to give price protection in the post-emergency readjustment period to producers who increase production at the request of the government in order to meet emergency requirements. The guarantee of such protection in World War II, in our opinion, was one of the most important factors enabling American farmers to increase food production to record levels in a short period of time.

"A bill of this type would be of distinct advantage. Farmers would know that they would receive at least the highest level of permissive support ordinarily available under the Agricultural Act of 1949; that is, 90 percent of parity for two years after the end of the emergency. With this assurance, farmers would be more likely to do all they could to increase production. Certainly an assurance of 90 percent of parity would help in maintaining or further increasing production.

"The question arises, however, as to whether under this bill we might

again find ourselves facing the same kind of situation that prevailed with respect to perishables under price support operations following World War II.

"We are not likely to forget the difficulties we had with the potato support program—nor with eggs and other perishables. \* \* \*

"Under the bill the Secretary would be faced with the alternative of either (1) not announcing any goals at all for perishable products, or (2) announcing goals and then supporting prices. The problems that could arise if the latter approach is taken are illustrated by the attached chart on losses realized by CCC since its inception in October, 1933. Losses on perishable products account for most of CCC's total loss. This is something of direct concern to all farmers because we know that the enemies of price support frequently use these losses to undermine the programs on storables where price support has given farmers so much protection at so little cost. \* \* \*

"I would favor an amendment to S. 450 which would revise Title I of the Agricultural Act of 1949 by eliminating the sliding scale and providing mandatory support for the basic commodities at 90 percent of parity. Generally speaking, I would favor the other provisions of S. 450, provided the bill at the same time contained a workable method for supporting perishables and for adjusting production of storable nonbasics in the post-emergency adjustment period. \* \* \*

#### Brannan Plan

After a discussion of the other bills under consideration by the subcommittee, Secretary Brannan turned to a summation of the problem of supporting perishables. Portions of this statement also are quoted:

"At several points in this discussion of the three bills I have made reference to the need for providing an adequate mechanism by means of which the perishable commodities can be afforded comparable support to that now given, and by these proposals to be improved, for storables. Until such a method is found, we cannot properly say that our price support legislation is adequate, is fair, or provides the stability for the farm economy which is our objective.

"This committee recently issued a report in which this premise is generally recognized, and I think it is recognized by most farm economists

who believe in the desirability of price support.

"Therefore, I earnestly hope that the committee will continue its efforts to find such a mechanism.

"And I most respectfully urge the committee not to be influenced against such an objective search by those who dealt so unfairly with me, when at the joint request of this committee and the House Committee on Agriculture, I offered for consideration the results of a careful study of the subject which had been undertaken in the Department.

"I am going to make no further argument at this time for production payments, although I believe the method has much merit when properly used with others and is entitled to study with the degree of objectivity with which it was offered in April of 1949.

"I should like only to remind the committee of this background material.

"The principle of production payments is not new. Price adjustment payments were made to cotton farmers in 1936 and 1938. Beginning in 1939 and continuing through 1943, parity payments were made to producers of the basic crops. These were in effect production payments. \* \* \*

"Finally, neither the group who seized upon this recommendation in 1949 as a device by which to embarrass the Secretary of Agriculture and destroy confidence in the Department of Agriculture, nor any one else has suggested an alternative method or, in fact, shown any concern about an adequate method even at this time. \* \* \*

#### Defense Production Act

Further consideration of legislation extending the Defense Production Act has been postponed by the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency until it hears from spokesmen for the steel industry and labor on the current steel controversy.

The decision to delay action on the controls legislation was made after the Committee had conferred April 22 with top stabilization officials—Economic Stabilizer Putnam, Price Director Arnall, and Wage Stabilizer Feinsinger.

The Committee will conduct executive hearings on the steel situation on April 29 and 30 and an open session May 1. The Committee plans to resume work on the bill to extend the Defense Production Act on May 12 and hopes to finish writing a bill by May 16. The present controls law will expire June 30.

### Home Economics Division Advertisements

Enclosed with this issue of the INFORMATION LETTER are copies of the March and April advertisements of the N.C.A. Home Economics Division. Canned soups were featured in March under the title, "Enjoy better meals—reduce kitchen work—serve modern Canned Soups." Canned meats were covered in April under the title, "Want to know why Canned Meat consumption has more than tripled in the past ten years?"

These advertisements are two of the series following the new theme in which a part of the advertisement stresses various food groups. The advertisements appear in teachers' magazines and the information is designed to fit into lessons being taught in food classes.

A part of each advertisement lists the supplementary educational materials on canned foods available to teachers upon request to N.C.A.

### Board, Council, Committees

(Concluded from page 139)

replies he has elicited from personalities in the recent news.

On the Three-Star program he dramatized the cost-of-living situation and during these broadcasts made favorable mention of the fact that in the food lines canned fruits and vegetables are contributing the least to consumer costs. Also he gave publicity to the new laboratories of the N.C.A. as evidence of a soundly scientific industry.

Mr. Brooks was born in Kansas City, Mo., in 1901 and educated in Ohio public schools and at Ohio State University, where he graduated with a B.Sc. degree and was prominent in campus publications. He started his news career in 1924 on Ohio newspapers and for five years was managing editor of the Youngstown Telegram before joining the Washington Bureau of Scripps-Howard. Since 1932 he has been in the press box at each of the national political conventions. In Washington he is a member of the noted Gridiron Club, to which he has contributed as skit writer, producer, and actor.

In addition to members of the N.C.A. Board of Directors, members of the Administrative Council, the State Secretaries in attendance, and N.C.A. Committee members who will be in Washington for the spring meetings are invited to hear Mr. Brooks at the Board luncheon.

The business of the first session of the Board will be taken up immediately following the luncheon. Following adjournment that day, those in attendance are invited to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Campbell, 1607 South Arlington Ridge Road, Arlington, Va.

Hotel reservations for those attending the spring meetings should be made promptly, and if it is desired that the Association obtain them, the request should be addressed to Miss Helen Tate, N.C.A., 1133 20th St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. The hotels have requested that all reservations be in by May 10, and in the case of the Statler and Mayflower, none can be held later than check-out time on May 21.

### N.C.A. Public Relations

The public relations program of the N.C.A. will be reviewed at the meeting of the Public Relations Committee scheduled to start with dinner at 7 p.m., in the Town Room, Hotel Statler, Sunday, May 18.

Among several items that will come up for discussion will be the matter of observance by the N.C.A. of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Nicholas Appert, father of the canning process, which takes place October 23. Another topic will be the production and distribution of a publication now in preparation which contains statements covering the economic importance of canning, history, scientific research accomplishments, nutritive values, contribution to agricultural and labor payrolls, and other subjects.

## PERSONNEL

### W. D. Lewis To Join C.M.&S.A. As Assistant to Gorsline

Appointment of W. D. (Dave) Lewis as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer of the Canning Machinery & Supplies Association has been announced by Hal W. Johnston, C.M.&S.A. president, following a meeting of the board of directors in Chicago April 18.

Mr. Lewis will act as assistant to S. G. Gorsline, Secretary of the C.M.&S.A. since 1930. He will be stationed at the C.M.&S.A. headquarters in Battle Creek, Mich.

Mr. Lewis has been serving since 1949 as Assistant to the Secretary of N.C.A., with duties in connection with membership and later with defense priorities and materials controls. He joined the N.C.A. in 1946 as a sanitarian in the Western Branch Laboratory in San Francisco.

A graduate of high school in Albuquerque, N. M., Mr. Lewis was awarded his B.S. degree at the University of New Mexico in 1935. Subsequently, he did intensive training in sanitation at the University of California. In 1941-43 he was engaged in postgraduate studies in civil engineering at the University of New Mexico.

His first employment was as a sanitarian with the New Mexico State Department of Health. From 1944 to 1946 he served with the U. S. Public Health Service.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
<b>Defense</b>		1951-52 apple products packs	160
Standards for suspension of price controls	159	Beets for canning	160
WSB again allows canners to raise wages during packing	161	Cucumbers for pickles	160
OPS allows 4 percent increase in prices of glass containers	161	Tomatoes for processing	161
Ceiling prices on fresh fruits	161	<b>Standards</b>	
Packaging closures, M-26	161	Pineapple standards hearing	162
<b>Association Activities</b>		<b>Congress</b>	
Ned Brooks, radio news commentator, to speak at meeting of Board on developments in Washington	159	Brannan plan for production payments recalled at hearing on bills to provide price support for perishable crops	163
Schedule of meetings of Board, Council, committees	159	Defense Production Act	163
N.C.A. public relations	164	<b>Home Economics</b>	
<b>Procurement</b>		Home Economics Division advertisements	164
N.C.A. given assurance on negotiated buying	159	<b>Personnel</b>	
<b>Statistics</b>		W. D. Lewis to join C.M.&S.A. as assistant to Gorsline	164
Canned fruit and vegetable stocks and shipments	160		